

PURSUIT of God, Pt. 4

Exodus 34.1-9

A. W_____

Meaning: forming the best plans and using the best means for carrying them out.

Rom. 16:27 to the only wise God be glory for ever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

1 Tim. 1:17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Jude 1:25 To the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

B. T_____

2 Sam. 7:28 And now, O Lord GOD, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant.

Numbers 23:19 God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind.

1 Sam. 15:29 ...the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret.

Heb. 6:18 ...it is impossible for God to lie...

Titus 1:1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

John 3:33 Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true.

Romans 3:4 ...let God be found true, though every man be found a liar...

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

C. G_____

1 Chron. 16:34 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endures forever.

Jer. 33:11 ...the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank-offerings to the house of the LORD, saying, "Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good; his love endures forever." For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before,' says the LORD.

Jer. 31:14 And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, says the LORD.

Hosea 3:5 Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

Psalm 25: 7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to your mercy remember me for the sake of your goodness, O LORD. 8 Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

Psalm 107:8 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Psalm 27:13; 33:5; 52:1; 68:10; 69:16; 86:5; 100:5; 106:1; 107:1; 118:1; 118:29; 135:3; 136:1; 143:10; 145:9

Ex. 33:19 (God said to Moses), "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy."

Nahum 1:7 The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knows them that trust in him.

Mark 10:18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.

Rom. 2:4 ...do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

D. M_____ /Lovingkindness

Psalm 103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Deut. 4:31 For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.

Isa. 63:7 I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he has bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses.

God is absolutely s_____ in directing His mercy and compassion toward whomever He will.

Rom. 9:15 For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

In other words, His mercy cannot be demanded or coerced. It may be sought after, but whether to grant it is totally within the scope of His will.

E. Long-suffering/P_____

Meaning: to be mild and slow in avenging; to be slow to anger and slow to punish

Num. 14:18 The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression...

Psalms 86:15 But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

God's mercy and long-suffering are intended for a_____ mankind.

2 Pet. 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

1 Tim. 2:4 (God) wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

2 Peter 3:15 ...consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation...

Lam. 3:22 It is because the LORD is merciful that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness.

1 Tim. 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

16 However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. 17 Now to the King eternal,

immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

God's longsuffering and patience is "a p_____ in God that enables him to endure everything that is necessary to accomplish all that he has planned." (Reisinger)

Everyone who can be saved will be saved and everyone who is saved will be saved for eternity.

F. F_____

The meaning of the OT word faithful was "to prop or to support." It referred to one who may be safely leaned upon.

Deut. 33:27 The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Deut. 32:4 He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

In the NT, the Greek word for faithfulness meant "trustworthy," and referred to one who could be relied on.

1 Cor. 1:9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Cor. 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

2 Thess. 3:3 ...the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

It is important to note that God extends His goodness, His faithfulness and His mercy to particular people:

- Those who w_____ for Him and who seek after Him.

Lamentations 3:25 The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

- Those who f_____ Him and love Him.

Deut. 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,

Psalm 103:11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; 17 But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,

- Those who c_____ their sins openly.

Prov. 28:13 Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

- Those who t_____ in Him

Psalm 32:10 Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; But he who trusts in the LORD, mercy shall surround him.

- Those who c_____ upon Him

Psalm 86:5 For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.

Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

- To those who are f_____

Romans 11:22 ...consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

G. L_____

1 John 4:8 God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Love is not just a characteristic of God; love is the very essence of God. There is no defining or knowing God apart from His love.

The only way that man has any idea of the concept of God as love finds its source uniquely in the Bible.

God's love can only be comprehended by coming to have a personal relation-ship with Jesus Christ.

1 John 3:16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

Whom does God love?

- God loves the S_____.

Matt. 3:17 God said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

- God loves those who I_____ the Son.

John 16:27 ...the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.

John 14:21 Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.

The Bible clearly teaches that God has a g_____ love for all mankind prior to their coming to acknowledge Christ as Lord.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

1 Tim. 2:4 (God) desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Rom. 5:6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Eph. 2:4 God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved...

But God has a peculiar love – a s_____ love – reserved for those who become part of the kingdom – those who are the “beloved of God.”

John 17:22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me,

that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

Zeph. 3:17 The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.

1 John 3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

Rom. 8.29-39

God's love for His children is I _____

Psalm 103:11 ...as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

Eph. 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith – that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

...e _____

Psalm 136:1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever.

...and immutable or u _____

Micah 7:18 He does not retain his anger forever, because He delights in unchanging love.

What is the greatest evidence for the love of God?

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son...

God's love is proven by the fact that He g _____. In fact, there is no such thing as love until it is given away.

What other God is like our god?

➤ Is Allah?

Allah is a single deity with no known companions. Before the creation of the world, He was alone – no family, no community. Allah could not love because there was no object of love even if it were one of His attributes.

If Allah created the world so that he could give, then Allah is contingent or dependent upon His creation for fulfillment.

The result of such an existence is total unity with no room for diversity. Thus, those who follow Allah are completely intolerant of the existence of those who reject Him.

➤ At the other extreme there is Hinduism.

In Hinduism, there are over one million named gods and goddesses. There is no social unity among them nor among those who follow the teachings of Hinduism. The entire culture of Hinduism is based on a caste system that is defined by separation, division, and class warfare.

Hinduism demands from its subjects works worthy of righteousness. There is no room for grace and mercy.

The gods of Hinduism know nothing about giving – only taking. Hinduism, then, is all about diversity and knows nothing of unity.

➤ Then we have the God of Christianity

God is a Trinity – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – one and at the same time three.

For God to have the attribute of love, there must have been an object of His love from eternity. And, of course, there was – the Son has always been there with the Father.

There was perfect love and community before the creation of the world between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

They are diverse yet unified in thought and purpose and action with the power to give and to receive.

And God instilled these very characteristics into His creation in the person of man created in God's own image.

1 John 3:16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers.

God's love is measured by His limitless g_____; it is tempered by His righteousness and j_____.